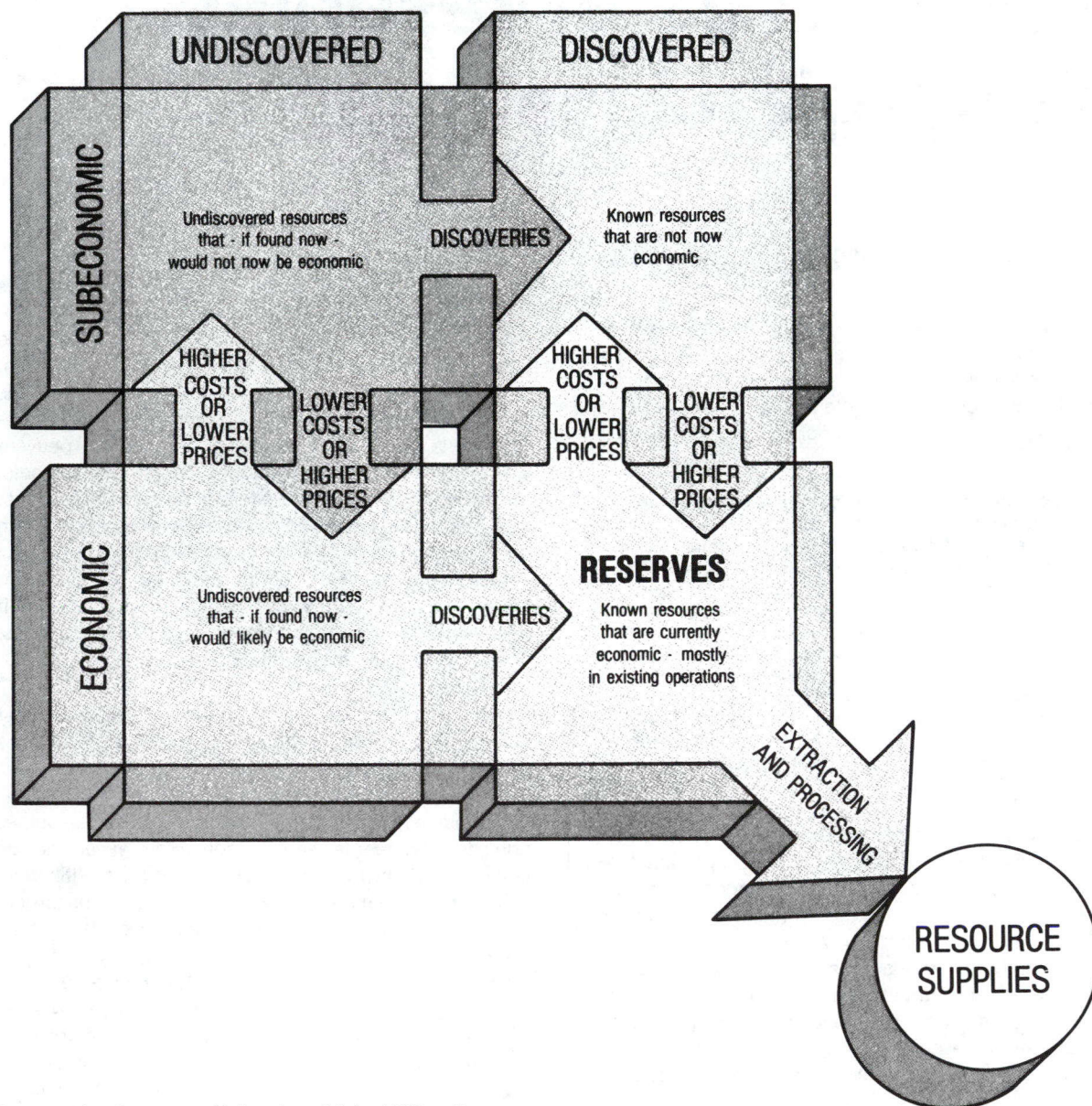


Figure 3-6: THE FLOW OF RESOURCES OVER TIME



Source: After Cranstone, McIntosh and Azis, 1978, p. 2.

A. LIQUID HYDROCARBONS

For the purpose of this discussion the term *liquid hydrocarbons* includes conventional crude oil, synthetic crude oil and natural gas liquids. Table 3-1 is a compilation of recent estimates of Canadian reserves and resources of liquid hydrocarbons. Figure 3-7 shows the evolution in Canada's reserves position since 1955 for conventional liquid hydrocarbons (that is, including conventional crude and natural gas liquids). Our reserves of

conventional crude peaked in 1969 at 1,665 million cubic metres (about 10.5 billion barrels) and have since been in decline.

Canada's proven reserves of conventional crude oil are strongly concentrated in the Province of Alberta. If these reserves could be produced and delivered to markets at a rate equal to domestic demand, they would be sufficient to meet all of Canada's petroleum needs for about eleven years at the current rate of consumption (about 300,000 cubic metres per day). In fact, this could